



HF Happenings 384

December 2009

HF Happenings via Yahoo Groups HF_Happenings-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

South African Radio League Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1



RTTY Welcome Day (1 January - all day long!)

Phil, N8PS, wants to remind everyone: "Now is your chance to meet and greet other RTTY operators from all over the world. No hours, No rules, No score, No pressure, No quota, No log needed. Any band*, any contact, any time, any power, any equipment, any antenna. (*) = Authorised amateur radio sub-bands, of course. Get that antique set-up running or fire-up that brand new rig. Use any modem, computer or combination thereof.

Meet and greet others without time limits. Have a short exchange or a rag-chew - whatever suits you. Participation is voluntary. No log necessary. No awards - just satisfaction. Help others find joy in RTTY by operating for the first time, or the thousandth time.

Get your set-up running smoothly and help others to reverse inversion. Just get on the air to say 'howdy' -or- 'hello' -or- 'welcome to RTTY'

Please help spread the news. Tell your friends and neighbours. I will see you on the air for RTTY welcome day - 01 January 2009 - all day long. 73, de Phil, N8PS, RTTY Welcome Day Cheerleader.

December

ZS10WCS operated by the
East Rand ARC

1 World Aids day
5/6 ARRL 160 metre contest
6 PEARS HF QSO Party
7 closing date SARL HF Field
Day logs
11 Schools close
12/13 ARRL 10 metre contest
16 Day of Reconciliation
19/20 Croatian CW contest
25 Christmas Day
26 Family Day
26/27 Stew Perry Top band
contest
31 End of 2009 CQ DX Mara-
thon

DXpedition of the Year Survey

The "DX World of Ham Radio" Web page is conducting a online survey to see which expedition warrants the title "DXpedition of the Year 2009". Special engraved trophies will be shipped to the top three DXpeditions of 2009. To participate in the survey, go to <http://dx-hamspirit.com>

India and 30 Metres

OPDX was informed by Prasad, VU2PTT, that Gopal Madhavan, VU2GMN, President of ARSI - the IARU recognised national organization of India, is reporting that the "Wireless Planning & Coordination Wing (WPC), India's Ministry of Communications and Information Technology Department of Telecommunications has written to him to inform that 10100 - 10150 kHz has been allocated to Amateur Radio Services on a secondary basis in India. This means that VU2 hams are free to use this on a non-interference basis with existing users of these frequencies.

Earlier, temporary permission was issued from time to time for this WARC band. It has also been communicated to Gopal that the 50 - 52 MHz (6 m) band cannot be allocated now since it has already been allocated to other services.

Merry Christmas





Added Note: Steve, VU3USJ, mentions, "Gopal, VU2GMN, who has been in contact with the relevant authorities in Delhi, says he is trying to clarify if SSB will be included with the permanent allocation. I believe Australia is the only other country allowing SSB on 10 MHz for radio amateurs."

IARU Region 1 countries have access to 10,100 to 10,150 MHz, but only countries south of the equator may use SSB between 10, 120 and 10,140 MHz during local daytime hours.

Some Solar Cycle 24 Firsts

Sunspot group #11035 near N30W13 has grown into the largest (seven times larger than the Earth) and most magnetically complex (beta-gamma) sunspot group of solar cycle 24. At 01:02 UTC, the sunspot group released a small C5.3 solar flare, the largest solar flare of solar cycle 24. More small C class solar flares are possible, with a chance for an isolated medium size M class solar flare. #11035 also produced the first partially geoeffective (Earth facing) coronal mass ejection (CME) of solar cycle 24. The CME will arrive at Earth in an approximately two days and could spark a geomagnetic storm and visible aurora. Another geoeffective CME is possible, with an associated sudden ionosphere disturbance (SID) and shortwave fadeout (SWF).

The sunspot count is 38, which is the highest of solar cycle 24. The solar flux index is 82, which is tied for the highest SFI of solar Cycle 24. With the increased sunspot count, we should see improved propagation conditions on 15 and 12 meters.

SARL HF Field Day

The provisional results of the November leg of the SARL HF Field Day are available. The contest committee received two paper logs (sent by post) and eleven electronic logs; twelve are contest logs and one check log. Four of the logs, ZS1OAK, ZS6PTA, ZS4JAN and ZS2EC, had to be scored by the contest committee.

Field Stations

- 1st Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, 116 412 points, single operator QRP
- 2nd West Rand ARC, ZS6WR, 77 712 points, multi-operator low power
- 3rd Boland ARC, ZS1TB, 71 504 points, multi-operator low power
- 4th Highway ARC, ZS5HAM, 61 048 points, multi-operator low power
- 5th Sandton ARC, ZS6STN, 31 120 points, multi-operator low power
- 6th Pretoria ARC, ZS6PTA, 30 488 points, multi-operator high power
- 7th Hibiscus Coast ARC, ZS5HAC, 24 072 points, multi-operator low power
- 8th Zululand ARC, ZS5ZLB, 19 542 points, multi-operator high power
- 9th Oakdale ARC, ZS1OAK, 16 632 points, multi-operator low power
- 10th Bloemfontein RAC, ZS4BFN, 2 760 points, multi-operator low power

General Stations

- 1st Pieter Jacobs, ZS6XT, 41 172 points, QRP
- 2nd Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC, 3 972 points, high power

DX from Africa





Mauritania, 5T. There have been reports that YL Yoshiko, JQ1LCW, is now active as 5T5YL. QSNs on Sunday show activity on 17 metres SSB working mainly Europe and East Coast NA stations. QSL via JQ1LCW.

The Gambia, C5. Eric, SM1TDE, will be active as C56SMT until 3 January 2010. Activity will be holiday style. Eric states "Look for me on CW, 2 kHz from the band edges, as well as some RTTY and SSB." He was spotted on 40, 30 and 20 meters CW this past weekend. QSL via his home call sign (the Bureau is preferred).

The Gambia, C5. Neils, OZ8KR, will be active as C56KR from Bakuto between 5 and 24 March 2010. This is his third trip to Bakuto. Activity will be holiday style with operations on 80 - 10 metres SSB, using 100 watts into wire antennas close to the Atlantic Ocean. QSL via OZ8KR.

Sudan, ST26. (Special Event). Members of the Khartoum Sea Scouts Radio Club (ST2KSS) will be active as ST26ASC until 28 January 2010. Activity is to celebrate the 26th Arab Scout Conference (under Peace and Unity). Activity this past weekend was on 20 metres SSB. QSL via ST2M.

Djibouti, J2. According to his own statement Olivier, J28KO, is the only active radio amateur in Djibouti working in the digital modes PSK, RTTY, Olivia, Hell, MFSK16 and SSTV at the moment. He has been spotted in RTTY on 20 m around 15:00 UTC. QSL via F6DKI, direct (IRCs only, no money bills), via bureau, LoTW or eQSL.

Nigeria, 5N. 5N3LQK is the new call sign of ex-5N/LZ1QK. Please consider that QSLs of 5N/LZ1QK are momentarily not accepted for DXCC credit because the DXCC Desk has no documents seen yet. The same applies to QSLs of 5N3LQK.

Nigeria, 5N. Ivan, OM3CGN, who was active as 5N7MGI before now, has a shorter call sign as requested by himself. He is now signing 5N7M and uses a 3 ele yagi for 40 - 10 m and a vertical for the low bands. He will also try to put up a larger spiderbeam vertical but is still confronted with the problem not having enough space. QSLs for 5N7M and 5N7MGI via his home call, but please be patient because the QSL cards still have to be printed.

Special Event Stations

The Netherlands, PD09, (Special Event). Look for special event station PD09XMAS to be active until 3 January 2010. Activity is to celebrate "Christmas 2009." Activity has been on 20 metres SSB this past weekend on 14194 kHz. QSL via PD5X, direct or by the Bureau.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 14 to 21 December 2009

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 18 December
Mode: (see rules)
Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)
Exchange: (see rules)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults





Submit logs by: 20 December 2009
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

AGB-Party Contest

21:00 - 24:00 UTC 18 December
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or Mixed;
Multi-Op; Digital; SWL
Exchange: AGB Member: RST and QSO No
and Member No; non-Member: RST and QSO
No
Work stations: Once per mode per 15-minute
period (see rules)
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same con-
tinent; 3 points per QSO with different con-
tinent
Multipliers: Each AGB member once; Each
DXCC/WAE country once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 8 January 2010
E-mail logs to: [euleu\[at\]mail\[dot\]ru](mailto:euleu[at]mail[dot]ru)
Mail logs to: Igor "Harry" Getmann, EU1EU,
PO Box 143, Minsk 220005, Belarus
Find rules at:
http://www.ev5agb.com/contest/agb_party.htm

Russian 160-Metre Contest

21:00 - 23:00 UTC 18 December
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 160 m Only
Classes: Single Op - Youth: born 1989 or
later - CW or Mixed; Single Op - Other -
CW or Mixed; Multi-Op - Youth: born 1989
or later - CW or Mixed; Multi-Op - Other -
CW or Mixed
Max operating hours: 2 hours
Exchange: RST, Serial No, "/" and locator
Work stations: Once per hour, once per
mode

QSO Points: Same locator square: 1 point;
Adjacent locator square: 2 points; Other lo-
cator squares: 3 points
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points
Submit logs by: 19 January 2010
E-mail logs to: [contest\[at\]radio\[dot\]ru](mailto:contest[at]radio[dot]ru)
Mail logs to: Radio Magazine, 10 Seliverstov
per., 107045 Moscow, Russia
Find rules at:
<http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/90.html>

OK DX RTTY Contest

00:00 - 24:00 UTC 19 December
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - Low or High;
Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op; SWL
Max operating hours: 24 hours
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts
Exchange: RST and CQ Zone
QSO Points: 10 - 20 m: 1 point same conti-
nent, 2 points different continent; 40 - 80
m: 3 points same continent, 6 points differ-
ent continent
Multipliers: DXCC Countries, once per band;
OK stations, once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x (DXCC mults and OK mults)
Submit logs by: 15 January 2010
E-mail logs to: [okratty\[at\]crk\[dot\]cz](mailto:okratty[at]crk[dot]cz)
Mail logs to: Czech Radio Club, OK DX RTTY
Contest, PO Box 69, 113 27 Praha 1, Czech
Republic
Find rules at:
<http://www.crk.cz/ENG/DXCONTE.HTM>

RAC Winter Contest

00:00 - 23:59 UTC 19 December
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, Low or
High; Single Op CW; Single Op Phone; Single
Op Single Band; Multi-Single - Low or High;
Multi-Multi
Max operating hours: 24 hours
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts





Exchange: VE: RS(T) and province or territory; non-VE and VEO: RS(T) and Serial No
QSO Points: VE/VEO: 10 points; non-VE/VEO: 2 points; RAC official stations: 20 points
Multipliers: VE provinces and territories (13), once per mode per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 31 January 2010
E-mail logs to: canadawinter[at]rac[dot]ca
Mail logs to: Radio Amateurs of Canada, 720 Belfast Road, Suite 217, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 0Z5, Canada
Find rules at:
http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests/files/2009_Canada_Winter_Contest_Rules-FrenchandEnglish.PDF

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party
00:01 UTC 19 December to 23:59 UTC 3 January
Mode: Any
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Members: Member No, name, state, province or country; Non-Members: Serial No, name and state, province or country; Lighthouse/Lightship: ARHLS No, name and state, province or country
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 2 additional points per QSO with member; 3 additional points per QSO with lighthouse/lightship; Bonus: x2 multiplier for all points if participant activated a lighthouse or lightship
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 31 January 2010
E-mail logs to: (none)
Mail logs to: Dave Ruch, NF0J, PO Box 20696, Bloomington, MN 55420-0696, USA
Find rules at:
<http://arlhs.com/LCL-2009-guidelines.html>

Croatian CW Contest
14:00 UTC 19 December to 14:00 UTC 20 December
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, Low or High; Single Op Single Band - Low or High; Multi-Single; SWL
Max operating hours: 24 hours
Max power: HP: 100 or more watts; LP: <100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: W/VE: RST and Serial No
QSO Points: Own continent: 2 points 40 - 160 m, 1 point 10 - 20 m; Other continents: 6 points 40 - 160 m, 3 points 10 - 20 m; 9A stations: 10 points 40 - 160 m, 6 points 10 - 20 m
Multipliers: DXCC/WAE Countries, once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x country mults
Submit logs by: 19 January 2010
E-mail logs to: 9acw[at]9acw[dot]org
Mail logs to: Hrvatski RadioAmaterski Savez for Croatian CW Contest, Dalmatinska 12, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia
Find rules at:
http://www.9acw.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47:rules-2009&catid=39:english&Itemid=66

ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint
20:00 - 24:00 UTC 20 December
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: All Bands; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands; Multi-Op; DX
Max operating hours: 4 hours
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and ARCI number or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: ARCI Member: 5 points; Non-Member Different Continent: 4 points; Non-Member Same Continent: 2 points
Bonus points per band: 2000 for HB xmtr, 3000 for HB rcvr, 5000 for HB transcvr
Bonus points: 5000 for battery power portable with temporary antenna (not once per band)
Multipliers: States, once per band; VE Provinces, once per band; Countries, once per band
Power Mult: x 1 >5 W, x 7 1 - 5 W, x 10 250 mW - 1 W, x 15 55 - 250 mW, x 20 <55 mW





Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 20 January 2010

E-mail logs to: contest[at]qrparci[dot]org

Mail logs to: ARCI Holiday Spirits, c/o Jeff Hetherington, VA3JFF, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada

Find rules at:

<http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/8108/118/>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 21 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and Member No or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 27 December 2009

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.fpqr.com/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.fpqr.com/fpqrprun.php>

Next Week's Contests

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party, 00:01 UTC 19 December to 23:59 UTC 3 January

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 23 December

DARC Christmas Contest, 08:30 - 10:59 UTC 26 December

South Dakota QSO Party, 12:00 UTC 26 December to 12:00 UTC 27 December

Stew Perry Topband Challenge, 15:00 UTC 26 December to 15:00 UTC 27 December

PODXS 070 Club QRP DX Scramble, 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 27 December

RAEM Contest, 02:00 - 09:59 UTC 27 December

LM Radio is Back

Come on; hands up who remembers LM Radio?

LM Radio, the station with a "million memories" launched a full 24-hour service on Monday 14 December 2009. The station is available on satellite throughout Southern Africa.

Visit <http://www.lmradio.co.mz/> for the programme schedule and details on how to receive the broadcasts.

Play me some real music!!

LM Radio's back

playing the hits of your lifetime just like the first time!



LM Radio or Lourenco Marques Radio, was the first commercial radio station in Africa. The Radio Clube de Moçambique broadcast it from Lorenzo Marques (Maputo) in Mozambique. The sta-





tion later moved to Johannesburg and became known as Radio 5 and later 5FM. Visit <http://www.lmradio.org/> for some history of LM Radio.

This Week in History

1896 Preece and Marconi first public demo of radio at Toynbee Hall, London

1901 Marconi received the first transatlantic communication, letter S. On 10 December 1909, Braun and Marconi were given the Nobel Prize for physics for their efforts in wireless communication

1961 The first amateur satellite, OSCAR I was launched.

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Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

